

# U.S. Families Prepared to Evacuate Lebanon

## Fresh Fighting in Beirut Anglo-U.S. Talks On Beirut Crisis

BEIRUT, Sunday. — The U.S. Embassy here today recommended the State Department that all American officials serving in the Lebanon be authorized to evacuate their dependents, if they wish to do so, at government expense.

The announcement followed a fresh outbreak of fighting in the capital this morning between the security forces and rebels using bazookas and hand-grenades.

The U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Robert McClintock, in announcing that he had asked the State Department to consider Lebanon as being in a "state of alert" — which would provide for transportation of the dependents of U.S. officials at government expense — said this was a purely precautionary measure "in view of the situation which has developed in the past 48 hours and the possibility that it might worsen and continue indefinitely."

Pending the State Department's decision on the request, American government employees living in the disturbed areas of Beirut are to be given the opportunity to move to safer sections of the capital.

The total number of U.S. citizens in the Lebanon is slightly under 3,000, of whom 285 are government employees and their dependents.

### Rebels Battle Tanks

The announcement came as the rebels battled against armored cars and tanks encircling their strongholds in central and south-west Beirut. Other insurgents, perched on rooftops, fought gun battles with pro-government irregulars.

Today's shooting followed a comparatively calm night after an all-day battle yesterday in various parts of Beirut. It ended this evening with a dramatic sweep over rebel areas by government tanks and armored cars.

After an uneasy lull in the afternoon, street fighting resumed in the Basta area and small arms fire could be heard from several other districts. Firing ceased at sunset.

Today's fighting, however, was not on the same scale as yesterday's. Although many people were too frightened to leave their homes, most of Beirut was very little affected by the fighting. The eastern, southern and north-western areas were comparatively quiet.

The heaviest fighting was on Tellet al Hayat hill, the highest point in Beirut, where the rebels set up heavy fortifications and directed fire against two army barracks below.

### Christian Volunteers

Heavily-armed members of a paramilitary pro-Government Christian group, wearing red and green armbands, took up sentry posts all over the Christian part of the city.

Last night the Army was forced to abandon a "Fatah" mansion of Prime Minister Solh as indefensible. The building lies on the fringe of the Basta quarter and has been subjected to withering fire from surrounding buildings.

The Army Commander-in-Chief, Maj-Gen. Fawaz Chehab, was still refusing to commit his army to full scale action against the rebels despite the apparent seriousness of the situation.

There were no reliable casualty figures. Hospital authorities have strict instructions from censors not to reveal the casualty toll.

Political circles believe the opposition is staging a demonstration of its strength for the benefit of U.N. observers who arrived here last week to ensure there is no illegal infiltration or arms smuggling into the country. (Reuter, UPI)

### Lebanese Get News From Kol Yisrael

The Lebanese get their news from Kol Yisrael's newscasts, according to the current issue of "Newsweek."

The U.S. magazine reports that many Lebanese tuned in on Kol Yisrael "for factual accounts of their country's month-old insurrection."

### On the first Anniversary after the passing away of our beloved husband and father

## Shimon Seidler

A memorial service and the unveiling of the tombstone will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 1958, at the graveside at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery.

Transport will leave from the deceased's home, 10 Rehov Elihu Sapir, Tel Aviv, at 4 p.m.

His wife and children

## No Chance For Early Summit Talks—Dulles

WASHINGTON, Sunday (UPI). — Secretary of State Dulles said today the Western allies would stand firm against Soviet pressure for a hasty summit conference.

He said it probably would be several months before a decision is reached as to whether a meeting would help solve any cold war issues.

Mr. Dulles rejected the Soviet position that a summit meeting "would agree, some miracle" to solve all the problems separating the Communist and free worlds. But he said that perhaps "we can do some things at the summit better than elsewhere."

Mr. Dulles discussed summit prospects in an interview with Rep. Kenneth B. Keating (Republican — New York) which was filmed for TV before Premier Nikita Khrushchev sent his latest letter to President Eisenhower on Thursday, urging speed in arranging a summit conference.

Moscow Radio called once again today for U.S. withdrawal from overseas bases.

At present, the radio declared, the Soviet Union is "attracted at any minute from any one of 250 U.S. military bases in Europe and Asia."

### U.S. Sets Off Two More Atom Blasts

WASHINGTON, Sunday (UPI). — The Atomic Energy Commission announced today that two nuclear detonations occurred yesterday afternoon on Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls as part of the current U.S. test series in the Pacific.

The announcement gave only the briefest details and did not specify how large the explosions were.

The AEC said that one detonation took place at 1730 GMT and another an hour later. The first test took place on Bikini Atoll and the second one was set off on Eniwetok.

In Tokyo, Japanese scientists today said the U.S. have tested a new type of nuclear weapon at their Pacific proving ground. Atmospheric vibrations originating in the Bikini Atoll area showed a large increase compared to previously monitored tests, it was stated.

### Stevenson Off To Europe and Russia

CHICAGO, Sunday (UPI). — Adlai E. Stevenson (twice) defeated Democratic candidate for President, departed today on a three-month trip to Europe and the Soviet Union.

He is expected to arrive in Moscow on June 17 and remain until August 12, and then return to the United States.

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### INDEX RISES 4 POINTS IN MAY

The cost-of-living index rose by four points during May to stand at 276, it was announced by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Unless the index is brought down by 11 points, to 265, in June, by a concerted Government subsidy campaign, a c-o-i allowance increase of IL5.40-IL6.00 will be payable from July. Recent indications suggest that the subsidy policy has been modified.

It was discussed at yesterday's Cabinet and that the c-o-i allowance increase will fall due.

### Five Qualify for World Cup Quarter-Finals

Five teams qualified for the quarter-finals of the World Cup soccer series as a result of yesterday's games in Sweden. They are Brazil, West Germany, France, Yugoslavia and Sweden.

The remaining three teams for the quarter-finals will be decided following play-offs on Tuesday and Wednesday. The play-offs will be between North and South America, Czechoslovakia in Group "A" and Hungary in Group "C" and the USSR and England in Group "D."

In yesterday's matches Brazil scored a clean victory over the Soviet Union, blanking the Russians by 2-0, while England was unexpectedly held to a 2-2 draw by the Austrian side, considered one of the weakest in the series.

Other results yesterday were: Ireland 2, Germany 2; France 2, Scotland 1; Sweden 0, Wales 0; Czechoslovakia 0, Argentina 1; Hungary 0, Mexico 0; Yugoslavia 2, Paraguay 2.

## De Gaulle To Make Second Algiers Visit

General de Gaulle will make his second visit to Algiers since he became Prime Minister before July 13, official sources said in Algiers last night.

It was also officially announced that General Raoul Salan, Delegate-General in Algeria, had named Air Force General Edmond Jouhaud his deputy as Commander in Chief in Algeria.

Key units of the 600,000-man French Army in Algeria have been placed on an alert basis for an all-out drive to end the Algerian war, it was learned. Reliable sources said the units probably would be deployed mainly in the region of the Tunisian frontier in an effort to cut the rebel supply lines which run across the border.

In recent days, paratroopers have almost disappeared from Algiers streets, which they dominated during the crisis days of the May 13 insurrection that swept Gen. de Gaulle to power.

Apparently the insurgent leaders, particularly in the army, which is now firmly in control, have decided to end a truce in their attempt to force through reforms in France and concentrate on the prosecution of the Algerian rebellion.

At all levels, spokesmen for the Army and the Public Safety Committee emphasize their complete support for de Gaulle, indicating that last week's brief outbreak against his authority has been temporarily quelled.

About 20 extremist members of the movement, including the "Front de libération algérien" organizer, Leon Debbouze, were arrested in recent days for France to make contact with public safety groups. Their apparent aim was to strengthen the movement in France as well as in Algeria.

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# Tension Over Cyprus Soars; 200 Greek Nato Officers Quit Izmir

## Ankara Seen Backing Violence Athens Holds Security Talks

By GERRA L. CONEY, Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
LONDON, Sunday. — It is now accepted by newspaper commentators here that, as Greece has been alleging since the start of inter-racial disorders in Cyprus, the Turkish Government is encouraging the campaign of violence to demonstrate the impossibility of peaceful coexistence on the island and to provoke a change-over of populations to facilitate partition.

Although the Turks realize that engineering riots would not influence Britain, they seem bent on pushing Cyprus to the verge of civil war. The partition idea, which began as Turkish Premier Menderes' election horse, has evidently galloped out of hand. Turkey dare not risk war with Britain and the rupture of her NATO alliance.

Editorial opinion is that in diplomatic exchanges the Greeks, therefore, are arguing that a disengagement policy must be pursued in order to remove the island from rival governments' pressure.

Greek sources here indicate their reaction to the British plan will not change their previous viewpoint — that the islanders should get self-determination within a definite date. Greece would object to any form of parallel administration for Turkish and Greek Cypriots as a means of peacekeeping of Turkish intransigence.

It is feared here that paratrooper reinforcements sent to Cyprus will have to check not only Turkish Cypriot attacks, but also EOKA reprisals. It is recalled that Grivas, the Greek Cypriot underground leader, promised a truce until the British proposals are announced. As the police force is entirely Turkish since the Greeks have left, the administration department of the military to enforce order.

Whitehall officials admit that the tide of anti-British feeling is rising higher both in Greece and Turkey, while the occupying troops for inadequate protection.

JORDAN ASKS SWISS TO DEPORT TOUKAN  
Jordan has asked the Swiss Government to deport the Palestinian Arab refugee, Tawfik Toukan, according to the Arab News Agency yesterday.

Toukan on Thursday announced that he is head of a newly formed non-political organization in Geneva dealing with refugee economic problems, including re-settlement.

The Jordan authorities in a memorandum at Lausanne said that Toukan is "mentally ill" and is wanted in Jordan for "various crimes" including embezzlement of public funds.

ZETA Not Failure, Says UK Atoms Chief  
LONDON, Sunday (Reuter). — Sir John Cockcroft, Director of British atomic research, today denied reports that ZETA, the machine designed to develop peaceful power from thermonuclear fusion, was a failure or a disappointment.

"ZETA is doing exactly the job we expected it to do and is functioning in exactly the way we hoped it would," Sir John told reporters. He said he had not read the findings published in the scientific journal, "Nature," which led newspapers here to call the widely hailed Zero Energy Thermonuclear Assembly a failure.

The article, by three scientists on Sir John's staff at the Harwell atomic energy research establishment, said that ZETA are not produced by the thermonuclear (controlled H-bomb) process, but may be interpreted in terms of an "acceleration process."

John said, far from being a disappointment, this discovery is an advantage. It is always good to know more about the way reactions take place.

Shepilov Attends Moscow Ballet  
MOSCOW, Sunday (UPI). — Former Foreign Minister Dimitri Shepilov proved himself to be alive and well last night by attending a performance of the visiting Paris Ballet at the Bolshoi Theatre.

It was the first time the ex-Foreign Minister and ex-Central Committee member had been seen in public in Moscow for about six months.

Tension between Greece and Turkey over the Cyprus issue heightened yesterday following the withdrawal of Greek personnel from Nato headquarters at Izmir, Turkey. Greek service and defence chiefs met in Athens to discuss security on the northern border, partly shared with Turkey.

The unexpected meeting followed the secret airlift on Saturday to Athens of 200 Greeks — officers and their families. The Greek soldiers at Izmir was previously withdrawn in September, 1955, after anti-Greek riots in Istanbul and Izmir, during which Greek Nato officers were molested by mobs.

Greek official sources said the withdrawal could have been prompted by the desire to safeguard Greek officers and families from possible anti-Greek outbreaks and to signify Greece's unwillingness to continue collaboration with Turkey within Nato following the Turkish attacks in Cyprus.

"If it were the first of these reasons," the source added, "the Greek Government would certainly have announced it publicly."

British Foreign Office spokesmen declined to comment on Saturday's Turkish plan for Cyprus, which is to be announced on Tuesday, and demanding partition. Greece has not yet reacted officially to the plan, and reports said the Athens Government has made a number of counter-proposals.

But in Athens, Bishop Anthimos of Kitium, deputizing in Cyprus for the exiled Archbishop Makarios, said that he had declined an invitation to meet the Governor of Cyprus, Sir Hugh Foot, to be briefed on the British plan.

The Bishop, who arrived in the Greek capital from Nicosia yesterday, said, "After the tragic events and arbitrary attitude of the security forces, such a meeting was impossible."

He charged that the British are recruiting and training Turkish criminal elements in Cyprus who, helped by Turkish auxiliary police and under the eyes of security forces, commit murders of Greek citizens, set fire to churches and plunder and destroy Greek property.

In special announcements in yesterday's Greek newspapers, all Cypriot Greek employees of the Cyprus Government were invited to wear black bands across their laps when going into Government offices for work. This was to be a gesture of protest against Turkish attacks on Greeks and the massacre of eight Greeks near Nicosia on Thursday, the announcements said.

About 250,000 Turks yesterday demonstrated at Limn in favour of the partition of Cyprus. They sang the Turkish national anthem and chanted "takdim" (partition). (Reuter, UPI)

MAUNOVY DUE  
TEL AVIV, Sunday. — M. Maurice Maunovay-Maunovay, former French Premier and Minister of Defence, is due on Thursday for a 10-day visit as guest of the Israeli Defence Ministry.

Will Fight Back, Tito Says  
BELGRADE, Sunday (UPI). — President Tito today voiced Yugoslavia's "accumulation of bitterness" at recent Soviet attacks on capitalism. "We are not anxious to fight, but we shall fight if it is imposed on us."

Tito spoke to 50,000 cheering mine workers and local inhabitants of the Istrian Peninsula during observances of the 150th anniversary of the "Rosa" mine.

He singled out the Chinese Communists as the leaders of the recent attacks on this country's policies and ideologies, but also included the Soviet satellites as well as Russian Premier Nikita Khrushchev himself in his counterblast.

He gave special stress to refuting Soviet bloc charges that Yugoslavia was selling out to capitalism by accepting American aid. "It seems to me that it is our destiny to build Socialism under heavy blows from all sides, especially from those who ought to help us most," he declared.

Peking Radio, in a new bitter attack on Yugoslavia, today said the Yugoslav leaders were "out and out reactionary servants of the Yankee dollar." Transmitting the text of two current articles

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Editorial Office and Management: 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

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Monday, June 3, 1958. 10 Shv. 27-28 Adar, 1977.

## A MONTH after Abdul Nasser's return from the Soviet Union, observers are still waiting for the first concrete manifestation of the increased economic assistance implied, if not promised outright, in the general terms of the communiqué issued at the end of his visit. Meanwhile, there have been persistent reports that the loud trumpets accompanying Nasser's three-week tour of Russia drew a curtain of noise over the paucity of any real achievement. While it may be true that much of Nasser's prestige in the Middle East has been built up by noise of one kind or another, the steadily deteriorating economy of the United Arab Republic is not likely to derive the same inspiration from this lament commodity as do the Arab masses. The time seems to be fast approaching when these pressing economic needs will demand a more substantial reply as to what tangible benefits Egyptians and Syrians may expect in compensation for a policy that has increasingly alienated the West.

Developments since Nasser's return do not indicate that he will find an easy answer. Moscow's increased commitments within the east European bloc, consolidation of which is after all the Kremlin's major economic concern, are not likely to increase Soviet ability to grant the United Arab Republic the considerable assistance it requires. There are signs that the Soviet leaders are also less inclined to do so, because they believe Nasser is already dependent on their political support to an extent which has weakened his bargaining power in the economic field.

It is also highly probable that Moscow will take special pains that Nasser should understand this, in view of the latest crisis between the Soviet bloc and Yugoslavia. The Soviet decision to cancel its economic aid to Marshal Tito's Government cannot but have aroused misgivings and heart-searching in Cairo, not only because it was a clear illustration of the "political strings" securely attached to Soviet economic assistance but because of Nasser's special relations with Marshal Tito.

Ironically, it was the Yugoslav leader who, along with India's neutralist Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, was instrumental in paving the way for Nasser's close relations with the Soviet bloc. Mr. Nehru played his part at the Bandung conference when he personally championed discussions between the Egyptian dictator and the Chinese Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai. This period, April-May, 1955, constituted the halcyon days of Soviet-Yugoslav relations, the days of the Bulgarian-Kirushchev visit to Belgrade, when Stalin's megalomania and bullying were the source of all misunderstanding, and when Russia and China were on their best behaviour towards the neutralists. It was in this period, reassured by Tito, that Nasser made amiable by the rapprochement with Moscow, and by Mr. Chou, who could justly point out that China had never fully backed Stalin's attitude towards Tito, that Nasser forged the links with the Soviet bloc that now seem to be getting rusty. Not only has the Kremlin turned with renewed fury on Yugoslavia, but China has now attacked Belgrade's heresy with a violence surpassing even that of Moscow. Almost overnight, the reassuring factors in Nasser's relations with the Soviet bloc—the "proof" of political tolerance—have disappeared. And Marshal Tito, who no doubt will sympathize when Nasser comes to see him, cannot be of much help.

## De Gaulle Likely To Oust Speidel

By OMER ANDERSON

**BONN (ONANA).**—The first military casualty of General de Gaulle's takeover of political power in France is likely to be a German general—Hans Speidel.

General Speidel was Chief of Staff for the Nazi occupation of France. He returned to Paris a year ago—to command the land forces of all of Germany's wartime foes in Western Europe, including those of France.

He was named commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's land forces in Central Europe to spur German rearmament. The Speidel appointment, however, has accomplished little in this direction. And the Government is now facing up to the fact that de Gaulle has no use for any German involved in the French occupation.

Speidel has been popularized by the Bonn Government as the "saviour of Paris," the General supposedly having refused to carry out

Hitler's orders for destruction of the French capital. France's wartime leader is said to be sceptical of this, and to feel, in any event, that Speidel's appointment to his present post involved an unfortunate symbolism.

When it became certain that de Gaulle would return to power, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer summoned Speidel back to Bonn for a long conference on the General's future.

**New Post**

The device favoured by the Chancellor's military advisers is to transfer Speidel to a new post in Germany, and leave the NATO post open pending a clarification of de Gaulle's present attitude toward the Germans.

Speidel has failed to achieve popularity in his Paris post. NATO public opinion has remained hostile toward him. The appointment remains unpopular among military men on professional as well as political grounds. A staff officer Speidel had never commanded any unit larger than a regiment before being given NATO's top field command.



## KEEPING POSTED

OUR BeerSheva correspondent, now visiting the United States, recently received an invitation to the White House to attend a President's Press conference. The invitation was accompanied by detailed instructions about how to get to the President's office, time to set up an observer should behave:

No smoking. No questions. No photographs. No direct notes to be authorized by the President.

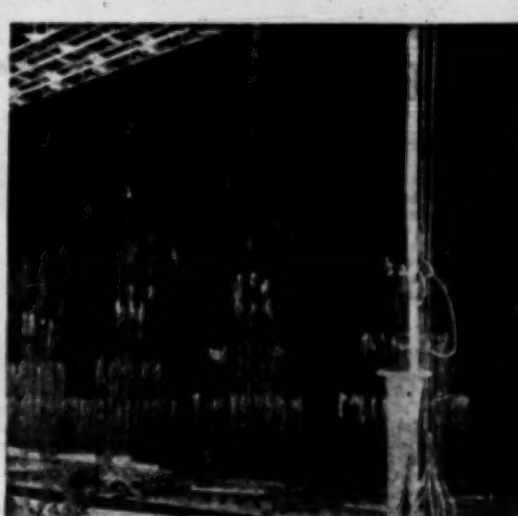
A number of accredited White House correspondents were already waiting outside Room 274, he writes, designated or the door as a Conference and Treaty Room. By ten o'clock some 200 correspondents and correspondents' guests had arrived. They stood in an orderly line, waiting to enter the room, giving the TV and camera crews time to set up their equipment.

The guests went up to the gallery. The conference room was simply furnished: rows of seats for the correspondents, a table with a microphone and a well-worn leather armchair for the President and the Vice President. On the wall was an American flag and the Seal of the President of the United States. An electric clock showed the time but there was no air-conditioning and the room was quite stuffy.

At 10:30 sharp the President, accompanied by his Press Secretary, Mr. Harperry, walked into the room through a passage that connected it with his office. He was dressed in a smart brown suit and looked very well. Everyone in the room stood up. Eisenhower stepped in front of the microphone and said "Good morning, please sit down." He then advised the correspondent to take the questions about France and Lebanon off the list for the day. The reporters immediately started firing questions at the President, some of them really "loaded." He answered them all very carefully, thoroughly and with an abundance of documentation. At times he slipped in a joke and had the whole audience laughing. Most of the questions were concerned with domestic affairs, and only one correspondent managed to ask one about De Gaulle, to which the President replied he "rather liked him." At 11 o'clock sharp Mr. Eisenhower walked out of the room and the correspondents rushed to the telephone. Two hours later the

afternoon papers were carrying reports of the conference. OUR Knesset reporter's breakfast was spoiled one day last week, when, filling the President's Report in cold print on Sunday morning, he saw that a reference to Mr. Yohanan Cohen had been altered to Mr. Idov Cohen. They are both Progressive M.K.s, of course. Idov having been an M.K. since the First Knesset and Yohanan having taken his seat only last October, when he filled the place vacated by Dr. Forer. Anyway, our reporter went down to the proofreaders' room to see his original copy and find out who was responsible for the change. He had hardly opened the door when one of the proofreaders loudly called out: "Say, I corrected an error in your piece. You wrote Yohanan Cohen and I fixed it to Idov Cohen." Our reporter, and those of our proofreaders, to Mr. Yohanan Cohen. We hope his breakfast was not spoiled.

THERE were some twenty-five people waiting in line at the box office of one of Tel Aviv's new cinemas. After five or six people had obtained their tickets, a short, stout middle-aged woman in a blue dress stepped up to the window. She carried a green plastic bag filled with assorted groceries, and her request for the tickets was simple enough: "two tickets for the second show at one pound seventeen and a half." His answer was also short and to the point: "no tickets left at that price." Most of us would probably have been persuaded to spend another 60 or 70 grush and buy more expensive tickets. But the lady wanted to know how it was that there were no tickets at that price after the box office had been open for only a few minutes. This was the new popular price that had been promised in the wake of the strike settlement and she wondered why the theatre had so few tickets in this category. She said it was common knowledge that



## Water Organ 'Shows' Music

AT THE EXHIBITION

THERE may still be a few avid cinema goers who remember the good old days when one watched "the flickers," silent tragedies of wronged women, played to full and several pedals to take care of, while the organ grinds out barrel-organ-cum-writer music usually heard in beer gardens or skating-rinks elsewhere. The idea is to present sound in sight, so that you can "see" the music, something like the Bach sequence in Walt Disney's "Fantasia." Only three of these machines have been built in Holland and this is the latest model of them. Apart from all the above, it is a cool spot on a hot evening and the ideal place to cool off after trudging around the pavilions. M.E.

## A Lebanese Apostle for M.E. Minorities

By SHULAMIT SCHWARTZ

ON Monday, May 19, a man whose name and convictions are intimately associated with the history of this country died in Beirut at the age of 83. In the early months of 1946, when the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry was investigating the tense Palestine situation, Monsignor Ignatius Moubarak, Maronite

Archbishop of Beirut, was alone in the entire Middle East in publicly expressing support for Zionist aspirations. Monsignor Moubarak paid dearly for his sensational testimony to the Committee: he became persona non grata in official circles in his country; he was overlooked when advancement in the Church would, under normal circumstances, have been open to him. Even here, in Israel, which rose across the border, his name has been almost forgotten.

Yet, in the Lebanon and in its far-flung diaspora from the Americas to Africa and Australia, Archbishop Moubarak is remembered as a faithful Maronite—members of that ancient church of the Lebanon linked with Roman Catholicism but possessing its own rite and headed by its own Patriarch.

**Determined to Fight**

Much water has flowed under the bridge of history since 1946. Lebanon itself, as the events of recent months demonstrate, has come far from the passive stance of its first and second statehood and is struggling to revert to the attachment to the West which was its tradition. It is quite clear that there are strong and well-organized forces within the population and among the emigrants who are determined to fight for Lebanese political independence and for the preservation of the tolerance and the cultural standard which native Christianity and Western influence have developed in the country. Archbishop Moubarak was one of the first to see this and, in the last weeks of his life, some vindication of the beliefs for which he suffered.

The right to be different was in essence what the Archbishop pleaded for in 1946. He saw how increasingly difficult it was becoming for Lebanon to retain its individuality in an increasingly monolithic Middle East. Christian minorities in countries with Muslim majorities were in distress. Assyrians and Armenians who had escaped slaughter were refugees everywhere, a large number of them settling in Lebanon, the historic refuge of Middle East minorities. The Christian population of Syria was being steadily absorbed into the Muslim majority. The Lebanese Christians were beginning to suffer acute discrimination in Egypt.

Support for Zionist aspirations thus meant for Archbishop Moubarak support for the extension of minority culture in the Middle East. A strong Jewish national centre would bolster what he conceived of as the Christian centre in Lebanon. The two small maritime countries had had friendly ties with the Arab League and the League of Nations since the days of David and Hiram of Tyre. Alone, neither might have held out successfully against 20th century pressures;

from the local U.N. authorities is a task which sometimes takes even the most persistent secretaries. But we would like to record the price for stone-calling to the U.N. telephone in Jerusalem who, when asked simply the Lebanese refrain of "No comment from our side." The publicity blast "You're welcome" with which this particular telephone invariably closes such fruitless conversations somehow only seems to add insult to injury.

Today's contributors include: H. Ben Ash of BeerSheva; N. Meyers of Orin; and T.G. of Jerusalem.

## Yesterday's Press Solution for Refugees

Heret writes that it is too much to hope that the Arab refugees who have decided to take their destiny in their own hands will forge demanding return to Israel because it is a cheap and convenient approach which does not call for concrete action. Yet if Washington, London and the U.N. will not hesitate to channel the attention and energies of their delegates in the right direction, there are prospects that the secret Geneva conference of refugees representatives will prove to be the first step to a radical solution of a problem which the Arab League has tried its best to leave unsolved.

Habekor (General Zionist) warns against the danger of favoritism penetrating into the field of justice and, taking a cue from the latest commutation of Ren's embezzlement sentence, writes that nothing prevented those who sought their commutation from coming into open court and stating their case in favour of the accused instead of apparently working behind the scenes. Mention has already been made of the birth of a privileged circle who consider themselves final arbiters in all matters of State from the Police to the plastic arts. This threat, nourished by public indifference, undermines the foundations of justice and public morals.

Hatzofe (National Religious) points to a decade's worth of the French summary and calls for immediate remedy: wider roads, better driving more care on the part of the pedestrians and above all a more sacred and serious regard for human life.

These principles, forcibly stated in Monsignor Moubarak's memorandum, had been for several decades an integral part of the Maronite political outlook. The term "political" is no misnomer when used with reference to the Maronite Church; for centuries the Maronite Patriarch had been virtually the leader of the Lebanese people, and in the Lebanese mind there had been a strong identification of Maronite church and Lebanese nationhood, with all other groups in the country accepting Maronite primacy.

The fundamental political creed of the Maronites was altered this situation. The protective Catholicism of the French was gone; Moslem Arab prestige and power were incalculably greater; the Maronite Church lost more and more of its independence as it became increasingly integrated with the Vatican; the secular pattern of Western society was not without effect upon the younger generation of Lebanese Maronites, while some of the older politicians were—to put it mildly—not immune to opportunism.

**Meoushi Disowned**

The day of the theocratic leadership of Patriarch and Meoushi is over, so much so that—ironically—the present Patriarch Meoushi's opposition views during this crisis are discovered by most of his flock. What many observers do not realize, however, is that the spirit of the Maronite leadership persists, though in an altered secular, no longer purely Maronite form. Without such persistence, Lebanese separatism and sense of relationship to the West would never have asserted themselves so strongly, after years of membership in the Arab League and the Asian-Arab bloc and despite Egyptian-Syrian encouragement of Moslem opposition elements.

The theocratic ideal of the Lebanon as a Christian state or centre has become the doctrine of a secular Lebanese state, tied to Arab country or union, preserving democratic freedoms according to the Western pattern and serving as a bridge between the Western world and the Arabic-speaking East.

"We want Lebanon to be a State, not a Church nor a Mosque," is the slogan at the beginning of the formal exposition of this viewpoint by

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## Readers' Letters